

Appln. No. 10/687,509

Atty Docket No.:31235-005

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-captioned application as amended.

In this Amendment, claims 1-28 remain pending without amendment. Claims 1, 2, 13-18, 21, 24 and 26 are the independent claims.

This application is a reissue of U.S. Patent 6,304,996. In the STATEMENT OF STATUS AND SUPPORT AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT filed concurrently with this application on October 15, 2004, original claim 1 and new reissue claims 2-28 were not underlined. The Office Action dated December 15, 2005 requires only that all newly added claim language be underlined. Accordingly, original claim 1 is now presented without underlining and new reissue claims 2-28 are presented with underlining.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If any fee is due for this filing, please charge the LARGE ENTITY fee therefor to Deposit Account No. 16-2500 of the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted
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